

**74th MSSA Senate
November 8, 2006**

74th Senate called to order by Speaker Jered Jackson

Roll Call (present-absent-proxy-excused)

Jessica Kallio 13-0-0, Taitum Thompson 7-5-0-1, Casey Carmody 12-0-0-1, Brett Fleck 13-0-0, Nikki Hanna 9-0-0, Brandon Ross 11-2-0, Jenna Ault 12-1-0, Katie Ischkin 8-0-0-1, Kristeen Giese 12-0-0-1, Jessica Nelson 12-1-0, Oliver Okoye 10-3-0, Kenneth Willaert 9-0-0, Nolan Chenevert 13-0-0, Peter Jennings 13-0-0, Marianne Reilly 11-2-0, Ryan Anderson 13-0-0, Kathryn Pase 13-0-0, Evan Trosvik 13-0-0, Jennifer Hansen 8-0-0, Ryan Christensen 12-1-0, Allan Gould 12-1-0, Jon Hurm 12-1-0, Jason Schilling 13-0-0, Caroline Kornowicz 11-2-0, Aaron Lorenzen 9-0-0
President Gabe Afolayan 13-0-0, Vice President Chris Frederick 13-0-0

Approval of Agenda Agenda approved

Approval of Minutes 11-01-06 Minutes stand approved

Officer Reports

President Gabe Afolayan

Meet and Confer tomorrow at 12:00 in CSU 202. President Davenport's reception tonight. Tomorrow night we will be having a casual dinner with Dr. Davenport in Gage food service to gage how food service is going over there.

Appointments: SAC-Tyler Stein, Amy Pratt, MSSA Handbook Taskforce-Katie Ischkin

Vice President Chris Frederick

The polos are in if you paid for them. I have tickets from the Student Savings Club Card-tickets to see Passion for Paintings
Senator Nelson-When are the tickets good for?
Vice President Frederick-Oct-

Speaker

Recognized Student Organization Initial Recognition: Exposed Photography, Salsa Club

Committee Reports

SAC-Kathryn Pase, Chair

SAC M#11-06-06 A MSU Men's Club Soccer

The Student Allocations Committee recommends allocating up to \$2,360.00 to the MSU Men's Club Soccer to travel to Tempe, AZ to the National Intramural Recreational Sports Association National Tournament.

SAC M#11.06.06 B National Student Speech, Language, and Hearing Association

The Student Allocations Committee recommends allocating up to \$150.00 to the National Student Speech, Language, and Hearing Association (NSSLHA) to travel to Miami, FL. to present papers at the ASHA Convention.

Senator Schilling-How many people are attending?

Chair Pase-Three

Motions pass

Coordinator Reports

Legislative Affairs-Ryan Anderson

Yesterday was a pretty exciting day. Holly Davis from MSUSA was here yesterday helping at the table with voter information and telling people where they could vote. We had some senators sit at the table for a while. Jessica helped out. We went to the dorm locations about

3:30 PM I think at that time about 35% had voted, so a pretty good turn out. I also went to one of the apartment complexes about 7:00 PM. They said most of the students started showing up about 4:00, so we don't know the numbers of students voting yet. I look forward to working with the newly elected representatives and hopefully they are open to the lobbying agenda we put forward. I think we should thank the people that got involved with both races, the CR's and the College Democrats. They put a lot of time in on campus working hard to get people elected and they added a lot to campus. I hope to meet with Clark Johnson who is the governmental agent for the IFO and discuss what the IFO legislative agenda is going to look like as we head into lobbying season next semester.

Senator Ross-What was the outcome of the smoking ban?

Coordinator Anderson-That passed with about a 2-1 margin and that means that within two years all the restaurants and bars that proved they lost funding and were allowed to go back to smoking will have to shift to becoming smoke free.

Senator Reports

Undeclared-Ryan Anderson

On Monday I met with Joel Johnson and Bill Watts of the first year experience office to discuss their efforts in increasing retention. The first thing was the First Year Experience seminar classes. These are classes that are marketed toward Freshman with the hope that they will develop the skills necessary to succeed in college. Most Instructors that teach FYE are IFO full tenured professors are allowed by there deans to teach an overload schedule. This means they must teach all the classes assigned by there deans in addition to FYE. Other sections of this class are taught by masters level student affairs employees. I asked if they had allowed graduate students to teach the class. This had been done in the past, but the grad students consistently had received lower evaluations then full time faculty, a trend in line with national averages. This FYE has had the same number of sections since 1999, despite enrollment increases. This has caused the average course size to increase from 25 to 30 students. Enrollment Management is looking into this development. Currently 48% of freshmen take the course, and in recent years there has been a waiting list for the course. The course has been proven effective, with retention rates 2.3% higher, than the average. I would be interested to see the long-term differences in graduation rates. I believe this course is also necessary. Surveys given at orientation report that of incoming students, 67% percent expect to study four hours or less and receive a grade of B or higher, which means they are in for a culture shock.

The FYE office has also created a new requirement; students with less than 24 credits and no major are now required to meet with an advisor. About 400 students are affected by that policy. With this requirement students would receive help when picking a gen. ed. course, many have no idea what requirements they must fulfill. They would also like students to pick a major by at least the students 3rd semester, by directing students toward gen eds that would encourage major exploration. FYE also hopes that students will develop a relationship with there advisor and come back in the following semester. To accomplish this office has sent out emails to students, and will have a high amount of walk-in availability around November 30th, when most first year students can register.

The office has also made an effort to be more accessible to students who do not live in Gage Towers. That is still an ideal location for them because Mav Hall is all freshman, but it is important to remember that McElroy is about 90% freshman students. The FYE office has free parking for students who wish visit with them, and hosts programs in the CSU and sends out newsletters in hopes of connecting with off campus students.

Personally, I believe that this is a great idea speaking from experience last year, with the FYE office. They were a great help in encouraging me when selecting classes and finding a major. They are also partnering with the SLD&SL office to encourage first year students to become more involved with on campus activities.

Social & Behavioral Sciences-Nolan Chenevert

- **Voting**
- I voted yesterday along with many of my residents

- Took advantage of Chipotle and the free burrito for voting
- **SBS Dean's Student Advisory board**
- Did not have quorum to vote or have elections
- Dean Alessio brought up points which we discussed:
 - Studying abroad- Stressing it more by bringing it up at freshmen orientation
 - Offer possible credit for just going abroad and not taking classes
 - Saving elective credits until later in college career to possibly use in studying abroad.
- Bachelor of Electivity-this gives students the opportunity of making their own major.
- Give students more freedom in what they are studying.
- Bulletin Board in Morris Hall for SBS announcements
- Putting textbook names back on website
- Personally as a Dean, he supports the +/- grading system
- **Parking Advisory Committee**
- Since it was the first meeting of the year a lot of basic information was shared.
- Got a review of the work done this past summer, some of which is still going on.
- Approved the 2007 summer work recommendation so they could start to receive bids but the funding is yet to be discussed.
- Paving of free lot
- Established a date for the annual public hearing on parking policies, capital improvements, and budget for Thursday February 15th.
- An issue was brought up by RHA about possibly separating Crawford and McElroy parking lots and permits. The committee asked for some more information from RHA and will discuss it at the next meeting.
- The next meeting will be Tuesday November 28th.

Senator Hurm-If they pave the free lot will they charge for that and there will be no free lot?

Senator Chenevert-That has been discussed, as of right now Mankato is the only school in the MnSCU system that has a free lot. It has been discussed for the past five years. It could be \$40 to \$50 a year.

Senator Carmody-Were there any costs in paving the free lot?

Senator Chenevert-Around \$300,000.

Senator Reilly-If the free lot were paved the permit would be \$70.00. Orange rates would fall from \$94.00 to \$84.00.

Senator Trosvik- Has there been any talk of using Parking fines to pay for the paving of the lot?

Senator Chenevert-Not at this meeting, but you are welcome to come to our next meeting.

President Afolayan-You talked about the ISBN numbers, is that on the Social & Behavioral Science web page and when are they going to put it up?

Senator Chenevert-It was just something they had talked about because they had done it in the past. The Dean would like to get that done as soon as possible hopefully next semester.

Senator Giese-Has the parking committee asked the students how they feel about paving the free lot?

Senator Chenevert-There has been articles in the past and discussion. People don't like not having a free lot but there have been complaints about violence of people fighting over spots and the condition of the lot. Some people have said they would pay to park there.

Off-Campus-Jason Schilling-During the past few weeks there have been a few things I have been working on. I attended the first Homecoming Task Force Committee, which started kind of rocky, but once it got going we brought up some good topics. Some of the topics discussed included but were not limited to T-Shirts for revenue and school spirit, the parade on Saturday to include more people that would not be able attend on Friday, such as people working on Friday, or high school bands.

On Student Union Board we are considering opening the CSU earlier on Sunday, possibly at 9 or 10 am. We are also considering designating more banner space for RSO's, since where there is

currently banner space, it is of limited visibility for students. The proposed space would be exclusive to RSO's. It would be the glass space where you go downstairs.

Yesterday was election day and I would like to commend Ryan Anderson for his diligent work on the Get Out to Vote campaign, I think it was a success as shown in the polls as.

Senator Giese-How many have they got enough man power to keep the copiers full on the weekend?

Senator Schilling-I can't answer that but I will get back to you on that.

President Afolayan-What are the areas for the increased banner space in the CSU?

Senator Schilling-Where you look down into the 1st floor, the glass area, this is a high traffic area.

President Afolayan-How has Marketing improved for the Off-Campus students in the CSU?

Senator Schilling-There is Integrated Marketing that will meet next week that will look at Marketing the CSU.

Allied Health & Nursing-Taitum Thompson-I am involved in the Student Union Board and Academic Affairs. I have just been trying to get my feet wet, being this is my first year being a student senator. My report is not going to be that in depth because I missed a couple of weeks in a row due to sickness and a financial deficit problem. Now I am just trying to get back into a routine. I am also starting to help with the student debt campaign by handing out surveys. I should probably fill that out so I can share my story.

In the Student Union Board meeting we looked at possible banner space in the CSU, which would be the glass part of the staircase across from the Hub. We are also looking at a possible relocation of the ISO/IPO office and the Veterans Office. We discussed a refill program on pop or coffee in the CSU to cut down on waste. A very interesting thing we have implemented is six areas of emphasis for the Student Union Board. This will allow us to cover a wide range of problems and will be able to work more closely with the CSU Administrative Team. There will be a meeting on Monday with the Integrated Marketing Team.

President Afolayan-How would the reshuffle of the ISO/IPO office be done?

Senator Thompson-They are looking at moving the veteran's office into the SLD&SL office. This will cost money but they are looking at putting all the offices in a circle. Everything will be right there.

President Afolayan-How much will it cost?

Senator Thompson-\$250,000.

Senator Giese-Is there an opening in SLD&SL, or is something leaving?

Senator Schilling-There is an opening for the Veterans Office.

Senator Giese-There is space open in SLD&SL, what is leaving or what is opening up?

Senator Thompson-There is space that is open and they are going to make a new room for ISO. Yield

Senator Schilling-In the five year master plan it was proposed to move Operations to the Student Union Offices and The Nickerson Room will move to where the Veterans Office is and ISO/IPO will have their own office made up of the Veterans Office and the dark room.

In regards to the \$250,000 that is in deferred maintenance so would not raise student fees.

President Afolayan-What is being vacated to make room for the Veteran Center?

Senator Schilling-That is unknown.

Announcements

Speaker-According to our bylaws you do have to get your senator reports done or removed from senate.

Senator Thompson-Integrated Marketing meeting at 2:00 Monday in 219A. This is open to the public.

Senator Ross-December the MSUSA Conference will be in Mankato.

Senator Ischkin-Cultural Diversity will meet next Tuesday at 6:00 PM in the office.

President Afolayan-Meet and Confer tomorrow at 12:00 in CSU 202.

Friday-Homecoming Task Force at 11:00

Senator Anderson-Let us know if you hear of any problems with voting.

Senator Thompson-Next week there are several Cultural Diversity events. We were challenged to go and wear our shirts.

Roll Call

Senators Present

Jessica Kallio, Taitum Thompson, Casey Carmody, Brett Fleck, Nikki Hanna, Brandon Ross, Jenna Ault, Katie Ischkin, Kristeen Giese, Jessica Nelson, Oliver Okoye, Kenneth Willaert, Nolan Chenevert, Peter Jennings Marianne Reilly, Ryan Anderson, Kathryn Pase, Evan Trosvik, Jennifer Hansen, Jon Sands, Cole Fink, Ryan Christensen, Michael Norton, Allan Gould, Jon Hurm, Jason Schilling, Caroline Kornowicz, Aaron Lorenzen65t

Executive Staff Present

President Afolayan, Vice President Frederick

Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 4:48 P.M.